

(12) United States Patent

Raposa et al.

(10) Patent No.:

US 6,498,476 B1

(45) Date of Patent:

*Dec. 24, 2002

(54) UNDERWATER HIGH SPEED PROJECTILE SPEED SENSING DEVICE

(75) Inventors: John R. Raposa, Warren, RI (US);
Daniel P. Thivierge, Warren, RI (US)

(73) Assignee: The United States of America as represented by the Secretary of the

Navy, Washington, DC (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal dis-

claimer.

(21) Appl. No.: 09/565,234

(22) Filed: Apr. 28, 2000

(51) Int. Cl.⁷ G01P 3/66; G01P 3/80

(58) Field of Search 324/178, 179,

324/180; 73/167

(56) References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

3,222,596 A * 12/1965 Mayer et al. 324/180

3,493,856 A * 2/1970 Wilson

324/180

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Walter E. Snow

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Michael J. McGowan;

James M. Kasischke; Michael F. Oglo

(57) ABSTRACT

A device for sensing projectile velocity in an underwater environment is provided. The device includes a plurality of evenly spaced break screen members positioned in a path of the projectile. Each break screen member includes a support member, a pair of transparent sheets spanning the support member, a continuous resistive trace sandwiched between the transparent sheets, and a sensing member correspondingly connected to each resistive trace. The sensing member includes means for outputting a signal responsive to impact of the projectile against the break screen, and a logic arrangement for determining a difference between impact of at two adjacent break screens throughout the run of break screens, thereby determining a velocity of the projectile.

9 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

